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WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending July 4, 1999

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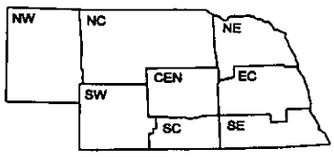

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged three to eight degrees below normals across Nebraska. Precipitation occurred across the State with averages ranging from one inch in the North Central and Southeast areas to one and three-fourths inches in the Southwest area.

GENERAL

Due to hail damage a week ago, extensive losses were noted in some Panhandle counties, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service Wheat, dry beans, and corn suffered the most damage Property also received a tremendous amount of damage. In some cases, producers were looking at limited options to replant. Crop development was slowed by cool temperatures until the weekend when highs in the 90s returned Startup of wheat harvest was delayed by wet soils Insect pressure was noted to be at a low and under good control. Irrigation had not been necessary in some areas due to ample rainfall Field activities included laying irrigation pipes, spraying soybeans and corn, cultivating corn, applying herbicides to crops, and moving grain.

CROPS

Corn conditions rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 14% fair, 53% good, 29% excellent Dryland corn rated 86% and irrigated corn rated 79% in good and excellent conditions Corn silking had not begun, rating below last year's 1% and 2% average. Due to high winds, greensnap damage was noted in Central and South central regions. Reports of herbicide damage continued to surface. European corn borer infestation was low and most producers didn't have to treat it

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybeans blooming was 6%, just above last year's 5%, but same as average Soybean conditions were rated 2% poor, 17% fair, 64%good, 17% excellent.

Sorghum emerged was at 98%, compared to 100% last year, and 100% average. Sorghum condition rated 1% poor, 18% fair, 67% good, 14% excellent

Dry beans conditions rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 28% fair, 59% good, 10% excellent.

Winter wheat conditions were 3% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, and 13% excellent. Wheat turning color rated 96%, ahead of last year's 94%, and 89% average Wheat ripe was at 32%, below 42% last year and 35% average. Wheat harvest was at 1%, well behind last year's 23% and 16% average.

Oats headed was 92% complete compared to 99% last year and 97% average. Oats conditions rated 4% poor, 23% fair, 55% good, and 18% excellent.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 61% good, and 12% excellent. Alfalfa first cutting was 98% complete, compared to 99% last year and average. Alfalfa second cutting rated 16%, above last year 15% and 14% average. Reports indicated it was difficult to get hay picked up without getting wet

Wild hay conditions were rated at 2% poor, 12% fair, 69% good, and 17% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 53% good, 29% excellent. Pastures were providing excellent grazing Feedlots were muddy from recent rain causing weight gain to decline.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF JULY 4, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Turning Color	93	79	89	98	100	100	100	100	96	88	94	89
% Wheat Ripe	2	3	6	21	32	59	58	93	32	18	42	35
% Wheat Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	1	n/a	23	16
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	0	1	1	7	0	0	14	6	n/a	5	6
% Corn Silked	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	n/a	1	2
% Sorghum Emerged	n/a	98	100	100	98	87	100	100	98	94	100	100
% Oats Headed	74	97	92 1/	99	96	100	100	100	92	87	99	97
% Alfalfa First Cutting	93	100	95	100	100	100	100	100	98	97	99	99
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	0	15	7	11	15	11	49	32	16	8	15	14
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 2, 1999												
Days suitable	3 8	3 3	2 1	1 3	1 7	2 2	2 8	2 1	2.4	4 9	4 3	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
(Percent) - Short	7	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	17	
- Adequate	91	95	57	77	66	93	55	75	77	88	76	
- Surplus	2	5	39	23	34	7	45	25	22	7	4	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
(Percent) - Short	8	4	0	0	0	3	6	0	2	2	15	
- Adequate	92	95	77	84	76	96	72	79	84	91	81	
- Surplus	0	1	23	16	24	1	22	21	14	7	2	

1/ Previous week revised to 88% n/a = not available

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PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 3, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1 11	1 00	1 07	1 49	1 50	1 80	1 42	97
Total since April 1	10 27	12 49	15 65	16 17	17 69	10 59	15 52	15 79
Normal since April 1	8 01	9 33	10 78	10 42	11 50	8 85	10 16	11 35
Total as % of normal . . .	128%	134%	145%	155%	154%	120%	153%	139%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1999

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	93	50	67	---	1 26	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	100	48	69	-3	1 36	125	937	957
	Sidney	100	50	69	---	56	118	846	982
NC	Valentine	98	48	67	-5	2 51	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	118	904	1036
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	110	957	1122
NE	Norfolk	93	49	66	-8	82	---	---	---
	Sioux City	93	49	67	-7	2 18	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	110	1021	1153
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	111	963	1155
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	116	1046	1230
CEN	Grand Island	93	53	69	-6	1 68	132	1067	1174
	Ord	94	54	70	---	1 01	118	1011	1162
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	132	1045	1160
EC	Lincoln	94	52	72	-4	4 07	146	1157	1297
	Omaha	91	53	70	-5	3 41	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	129	1064	1195
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	137	1117	1278
SW	Imperial	102	54	72	---	2 79	---	---	---
	North Platte	95	51	68	-4	2 31	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	134	1025	1103
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	139	1065	1150
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	157	1240	1190
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	142	1114	1298
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	134	1046	1187

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity The formula used to calculate GDD is Max temp + min temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln